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NEWSLETTER

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Ronald R. Drzewucki, Jr.

Nebraska
Numismatic Association **NEWSLETTER**

APRIL 1999

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NEWSLETTER
The Nebraska Newsletter is the non profit publication of the Nebraska Numismatic Association. Articles are solely the views of the authors. Your questions, suggestions and articles or advertising are avidly solicited.

N.N.A. Editor: STEVEN C. DRAKE
PO BOX 1003
OMAHA, NE 68101-1003

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The NEWSLETTER advertisements are not just limited to coin related advertising. If you have a business or just want to put your name in the NEWSLETTER as a booster, you are welcome to do so. Please provide ready made copies, since we are very limited in doing art work. There is a 25 percent discount if you advertise in four consecutive issues.

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COPY DEADLINES
Dec. 1 for the Jan Issue
Mar. 1 for the Apr. Issue
June 1 for the July Issue
Sept. for the Oct. Issue

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"The best exercise for the heart is reaching down and lifting people up"

Presidents Message . . .

Welcome to the annual Nebraska Numismatic Association Convention and Show, hosted by the Omaha Coin Club. It's being held at the I-80 and 72nd Street Holiday Inn on April 17th and 18th. A special speaker this year is California collector Walter A. Ostromecki, who is the national coordinator for the American Numismatic Association. His topic, *Women: Sarah to Bette B.* is something that's sure to be time well spent while you're at the convention. That, along with all the bourse dealers, the fine numismatic displays and all the other collectors will make this a convention and show with something for everyone. BE SURE TO ATTEND!!!

My time serving as the NNA president is coming to an end. Looking back at the past two years it is obvious that interest in the hobby has continued to be strong, and with the new quarters now being issued, many more collectors, young and old, will become involved too, making coin collecting a very fast growing hobby. The year 2000 coming up has also seemed to have an effect on the bullion sales by dealers. It is very strong now with people doing some hoarding in anticipation of Y2K problems. Whatever the case may be, it will be very important for numismatic organizations to be prepared for the new collectors by doubling our efforts in attracting new members to our clubs. I urge everyone who is currently a member of a local, state or national club to become involved in any way possible to make their clubs an organization these new collectors will want to join.

I would like to thank everyone for making my time as president of the NNA a learning experience for me. I suppose I have some regrets about not managing to do more for the NNA but the most important thing is that the organization is strong and looking even strong in the near future. Special thanks to the board who served me and the NNA well and to Steve Drake who really keeps the whole thing going. I look forward to serving on the board as past president.

CALENDAR

NEBRASKS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

April 17th and 18th, Omaha, NE, Holiday Inn, 72nd and I-80

FREMONT COIN CLUB

Sun., May 2nd, Fremont, NE, City Auditorium, 9th & Hwy 77

FUTURE

N.N.A.

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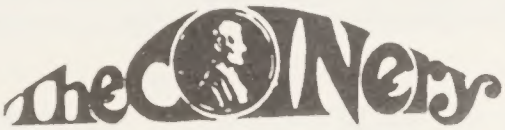

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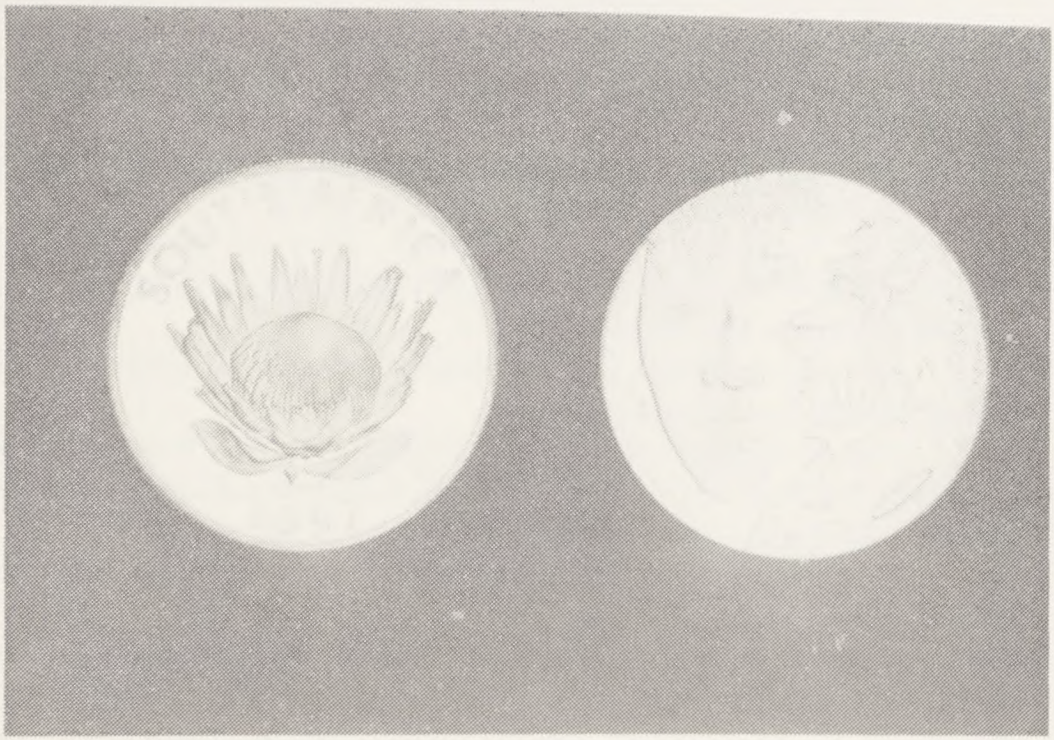

South Africa issue wins international Coin of the Year competition

A South African coin honoring that nation's women has been named the world's best coin among 1997 issues in an international competition.

The current competition, sponsored annually since 1982 by *World Coin News* magazine, began in fall 1998 when the magazine's editors selected 10 nominees in 10 categories from among all 1997-dated coins issued in the world. An international panel of coinage experts then voted on the top coins in each category.

In a second round of balloting, concluded early this year, the same panel then voted on the Coin of the Year from among the 10 category winners. Balloting for coins dated 1997 din not begin until gall 1998 because some countries issue coins dated from the previous year after the new year has begun.

Best Contemporary Event: gold one-rand from South Africa commemorating the first heart transplant.

Most Historically Significant Coin: gold $100 from Canada honoring Alexander Graham Bell.

Best Gold Coin: $200 from Canada depicting a Haida carved mask.

Best Silver Coin: 100-shilling from Austria honoring Emperor Maximilian of Mexico.

Best Crown: silver two-pound from Great Britain, which is the one-ounce Britannia bullion coin.

Best Trade Coin: brass two-zolte from Poland depicting Pieskowa Skala Castle.

Most Popular Coin: platinum $100 bullion coin from the United States featuring the Statue of Liberty.

Most Innovative Coinage Concept: silver $5 issued jointly by Kiribati and Western Samoa. The coin, commemorating was and peace, comes in two pieces that interlock.

Most Inspirational Coin: 10-leones from Sierra Leone honoring Mother Theresa and Princess Diana.

The selection process for the 1998 Coin of the Year award will begin later this year. The 1998-dated coins will have a tough act to follow, according the *World Coin News* publisher Ulrich "Rick" Groth.

"The quality of entries in this annual competition has never been higher," he said.

World Coin News is published monthly by Krause Publications, which also publishes the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* series. More information on the magazine and book series can be obtained by writing Krause Publications at 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990-0001, or on-line at http://www.krause.com.

Membership Application Form

NEBRASKA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

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Museum Moves Reed Collection

Reprinted from the Omaha World Herald

THE WORLD-HERALD

More items will be on display with other permanent exhibits on the lower level

BY KYLE MACMILLAN
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

No more than a third of the visitors to the Durham Western Heritage Museum are estimated to have seen the Byron Reed coin and document collection when it was on view from 1989 through 1996 in a space isolated from the rest of the building's exhibits.

"They didn't even know it was there," said Randall Hayes, the museum's executive director.

He vows that this will change in about 90 days, when a more spacious and viewer-friendly Byron Reed exhibit is scheduled to open in a new location alongside the museum's other lower-level permanent exhibits.

Preparations for the $300,000 display have moved into high gear since the question of what to do with a windfall from a 1996 sale of a portion of the city-owned collection was resolved last week.

The Omaha City Council overrode Mayor Hal Daub's veto and passed an ordinance that calls for the excess funds — now about $2.8 million — to go into an endowment, with the annual interest to be used for preservation and display of the holdings.

The storied collection of coins, medals, bills, books and manuscripts was willed to the City of Omaha in 1891 upon the death of Reed, a prominent Omaha real-estate developer and city official.

The collection has been in the head-

lines since 1994, when Mayor P.J. Morgan proposed selling a portion of the collection to raise $3 million toward the cost of renovating and expanding the Western Heritage Museum.

The City Council eventually approved the sale by Christie's. The sale took place in October 1996 in New York and London, generating net revenues of about $5.6 million. A protracted debate then ensued about what to do with the extra proceeds.

Now that the City Council's action has put those disagreements to rest, Hayes said, the museum wants to get beyond the controversy and concentrate on trying to assemble the best exhibit possible with the objects that remain.

Construction is more than halfway completed on the exhibit, and the display cases will be installed in the next two weeks. At the same time, curators are putting the finishing touches on interpretative panels that will accompany the show.

Hayes hopes the coins and documents, which have been stored at the Gerald R. Ford Conservation Center since 1996, can be transferred to the Western Heritage Museum in the next two weeks.

"We're ready to receive it," he said. "The vault and storage areas are all finished off. The safes are in place. Security systems are in place. Everything is in place. We're just waiting for them (the city) to return it."

Planning for the new exhibit has been under way for about two years. The only given, Hayes said, was the desire to create a display environment that was more inviting and informative than the previous one.

"I thought it was dark and dismal," he said. "There were no explanations. If you weren't a coin collector, and even if you were, it left you cold."

To help in the conception, museum officials traveled to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., and the head of the Smithsonian's coin department has visited the Western Heritage.

In addition, Omaha museum officials met a few times with an informal committee that included Omaha coin collectors, Reed descendants and other interested parties from the community.

Reed

Working with this group, museum officials decided to move the Byron Reed exhibit from its former location on the far east end of the museum's main floor to a space below on the track level.

The new gallery will have about 2,500 square feet of usable space — about 1,000 square feet more than the previous space. The new location will be an extension of the museum's other permanent exhibits, with visitors able to gain access through two entrances off the "Omaha at Work" exhibit.

Final details still are being worked out, but Hayes said the new Reed display will be a themed survey of the history of coinage geared to the general public rather than a highly focused display that would appeal mostly to specialists.

The new display also will contain extensive educational materials on Reed, the history and importance of the collection and reasons why people assemble collections of objects, such as coins and documents.

Between 800 and 1,000 objects will be on display, Hayes said, compared with the 300 before. Included will be a significant number of the pattern and territorial coins, the most important segments of the collection.

NEW MEMBERS

Sam Ferguson - Omaha
Walt Ostromecki - Panorama City, CA
William Purchell - Oxford, MI
Amanda Sanders - Fremont

1-Year Review Is Budgeted

As part of the ordinance governing the use of $2.8 million in windfall revenues from the sale of part of the Byron Reed coin and document collection, the Omaha City Council set aside $100,000 for an in-depth, one-year review of the collection.

The Western Heritage Museum will analyze all of the objects in the collection, studying their importance, condition and educational potential. The museum then will create a multiyear plan for the conservation, exhibition and interpretation of the holdings.

"One of our concerns," said Executive Director Randall Hayes, "which we expressed to the City Council, is that this collection has never been properly assessed. The only work done on the collection was done for the purpose of a sale."

Undertaking the study will be Larry Lee, an independent curator and numismatics expert who has helped the museum plan its Reed exhibit. He will be under contract to the museum for the year and will have the temporary title of assistant curator of numismatics.

As part of the study, Hayes said, the museum will examine what effect the 1996 sale had on the collection and whether the museum should consider acquiring pieces that could fill any possible gaps.

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YN AUCTION LIST – 1999

COMMEMORATIVE COINS

1. 1946-S Booker T. Washington Half – UNC.
2. 1986-S Stature of Liberty Half - Proof
3. 1986-S Ellis Island Dollar – Proof
4. 1987-S Constitution Dollar - Proof
5. 1991-S Mount Rushmore Half – Proof

HALF CENT

6. 1808 VG

PAPER MONEY

7. Several Brazilian Bank Notes

FOREIGN COINS

8. 1982 Israel Specimen Set
9. Isle of Man – ANA Centennial Crown

LARGE CENTS

10. 1838 F
11. 1846 VF
12. 1851 VF

INDIAN CENT

13. 1874 G/VG

LINCOLN CENTS

14. 1909 VF
15. 1910-S F
16. 1911-D G
17. 1912-D F
18. 1914 F
19. 1943 UNC

TOKENS & MEDALS

20. Prague, Neb – Vlasak Bros. 10c Trade Token
21. Wahoo, Neb. – Art Gamble 25c Trade Token
22. Wahoo, Neb. – Economy Grocery 50c Trade Token
23. Wahoo, Neb. – Economy Grocery 50c Trade Token
24. Omaha, Neb. – Omaha National Bank 1970 Medal – Bronze

TWO CENT PIECE

25. 1864 Large Motto G

THREE CENT PIECE

26. 1865 G

"V" NICKELS

27. 1883 No Cents VF20
28. 1902 VF20
29. 1912-D F

JEFFERSON NICKEL

30. 1938-D MS63 (in holder)

MISC.

31. Partial filled Liberty "V" Nickel Folder
32. Cent Planchet
33. 60 Pocket ANCO coin album
34. World Smallest U. S. Coins – replicas

SEATED LIBERTY HALF DIME

35. 1853 with arrows VG

BUST DIME

36. 1835 G

SEATED LIBERTY DIME

37. 1857 VG

ROOSEVELT DIME

38. 1955-S UNC

MINT SETS

39. 1964 (Capitol Holder)
40. 1980
41. 1984
42. 1985

NEBRASKA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

1999 YN AUCTION
P. O. BOX 1003
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Any young numismatist of the Nebraska Numismatic Association or any young numismatist who attends the YN auction on April 17, 1999 at the 44th Annual Convention may bid in this auction. Each young numismatist will be credited with $200 YN Dollars. There is no cost to the YN. Mail bids must be received by April 14, 1999.

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OMAHA, NE 68101-1003

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YEAR SET
43. 1964 UNC (in holder)

SPECIAL MINT SETS
44. 1966

SEATED LIBERTY QUARTER
45. 1857 VG
46. 1876 VF

STANDING LIBERTY QUARTER
47. 1928-S VG

SEATED LIBERTY HALF DOLLAR
48. 1876 VG

WALKING LIBERTY HALF DOLLARS
49. 1917 VG
50. 1943 AU

PROOF SETS
51. 1962
52. 1971-S
53. 1973-S
54. 1974-S
55. 1976-S
56. 1978-S
57. 1982-S

FRANKLIN HALF DOLLARS
58. 1956 UNC
59. 1959 UNC
60. 1960 UNC

KENNEDY HALF DOLLAR
61. 1964-D UNC (in holder)

MORGAN DOLLARS
62. 1883 AU
63. 1884-O UNC
64. 1889

PEACE DOLLARS
65. 1923 UNC
66. 1925 UNC

Thanks For Donating To YN Auction

The Nebraska Numismatic Association would like to thank the following people for donating to the YN Auction:

Jim Crosby, Tim Taysen, Tom Hammonds, Steven Drake, Jim Jasa, Willy Barnes, Francis McGovern, John Pestal, Roger Winklehake, Bob Missell, Al Moore, The Coinery, and Mark McWherter.

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Grand Island – 1
Gretna – 1
Hastings – 3
Kearney – 1
Lincoln – 16
McCook – 2
Mitchell –1
North Platte – 4
Ogallala – 1
Omaha – 31
Papillion – 1
Pierce – 1
Ravenna – 1
South Sioux City – 1
Tecumseh – 1
Valley – 1
Wahoo – 2
Wayne – 1
Wymore – 1

Out of state
California – 3
Colorado – 4
Florida – 1
Georgia – 2
Iowa – 6
Kansas – 4
Michigan – 1
Missouri – 1
North Dakota - 1
Ohio – 1
South Dakota - 2
Texas - 1
Wisconsin - 1

Mint Announces 1999 Release Schedule

The U.S. Mint plans a series of numismatic releases for 1999, including the annual proof and mint sets with the addition of the first five of the 50 state quarters, as well as various commemorative coins.

Following on the heels of the Dolley Madison commemorative silver dollar released on Jan. 11 are the 1999-dated gold and silver American Eagle bullion coins, which were to hit the market Jan. 28. Distributors said they were expecting that the silver Eagles would be delivered to clients Feb. 1.

The market for bullion coins is quite hot and the Mint has had a difficult time keeping up with demand.

Proof versions of the gold and silver Eagles will be offered to collectors in March.

Then it will be a waiting game until May, when the next offerings are to appear. A George Washington commemorative $5 gold coin will be first, followed by a nine-coin regular 1999 proof set and the five-coin 1999 50 state quarters proof set.

A Yellowstone commemorative silver dollar is scheduled to appear late in June.

An 18-coin mint set will be available in July, as will the Young Collector's Set and the platinum American Eagle proofs.

Finally, the 1999 silver proof sets – both a five-coin 1999 50 state quarters version and the nine-coin set – will come out in September.

The release dates given are all tentative. Delays and specific dates will be reported as they occur. Prices and projected mintages will also be reported later.

U.S. Commemorative Record #1

The First U.S. Modern Commemorative Coin

1982-D&S George Washington Half Dollar

By Ben Keele

This is the first in a series [hopefully] of articles focusing on the history and design of United States modern commemorative coins. I will attempt to provide an informative and entertaining summary of what makes these coins interesting even though they are often shunned by collectors as overpriced gimmicks.

I will begin with the first modern commemorative coin: the 1982 half dollar commemorating the 250th anniversary of George Washington's birth.

It was the first commemorative coin issued by the U.S. since 1954, and also the first ninety percent silver half-dollar made since 1964.

The obverse designed by Elizabeth Jones, shows George Washington astride his horse. The

Washington received most of his education from his father, and later on, his brother. Washington was good at mathematics and put that skill to good use when he was appointed the surveyour of Cilpeper County, Virginia.

Washington acquired the Mount Vernon estate and entered military service when his older brother died in 1751. Washington volunteered to a deliver message to the French in Canada that ordered them to withdraw from the Ohio River. The French refused, and Washington quickly returned and suggested that a fort be built at the fork of the Ohio River. His superiors quickly implemented the suggestion, so Washington was sent with about 150 men as a reinforcement force for the new fort. Unfortunately, the initial troops were attacked and repelled from establishing the fort. After finding out about this, Washington ambushed and defeated a small French group. However, the French retaliated and Washington was forced to surrender and return back to British territory. Washington continued to exemplify himself in military service.

As a member of the House of Burgesses, Washington often protested British taxes and policies. Later Washington was elected to the Continental Congress and then, General of the Continental Army.

In this position Washington lead the under-supplied and under manned Continental Army to victory and freed the colonies from British rule.

After the war Washington settled down to improving his farms and other projects. Although pleased that America was free, Washington was not pleased with the newly adopted Articles of the Confederation. "The Confederation appears to me to be little more than a shadow without the substance," he wrote in 1785. Luckily, when the Constitutional Convention was created, Washington was elected president of the convention. He was instrumental in the writing of the Constitution and its eventual ratification.

In 1789 Washington was unanimously elected President of the United States, with John Adams as his Vice President. While president, Washington supported the Bill of Rights. He was also very careful not to overstep his office out of fear that it may later lead to a monarchy or dictatorship. He was very careful in choosing his cabinet so to have a balance between conservative and liberal.

Washington set several precedents while president. Examples include: negotaing treaties and then giving it to the Senate for approval, and using non-permant agents for advisement so to avoid needing Senate approval.

Washington went on to serve another term as president. He continued to keep the Union running for another four years.

Washington had a very important role in numismatics as well. Legend has it that Washington threw a silver dollar over the Potomac River and where it landed is where Washington, DC was established. Washington appointed the first mint director, David Rittenhouse. He also appointed Alexander Hamilton as the first Secretary of the Treasury. In 1792 Washington signed the 1792 Mint Act, which established the mint and authorized the production of our nation's first coins. It has also been said that Washington's wife, Martha, supplied the silver for the 1792 silver dismes, which are now prized rarities. The practice of presenting Indian Peace Medals to Native American leaders was begun in Washington's administration.

In 1799 Washington fell sick with the flu and cold. His condition was not helped by the frequent bloodletting his doctors practiced. Washington died in his home on December 14, 1799. His passing was mourned by the entire nation. He has since been honored with monuments, and his own holiday.

Washington has been honored profusely in numismatics. Examples include: the subject of this paper, the Washington quarter, our One Dollar bills, medals and tokens so numerous that an entire book has been written about them, and many other pieces I haven't thought of.

The reverse of the half-dollar pictures the east facade of Washington's estate Mount Vernon. The legends, "United States of America," "In God We Trust" are at the top, while at the bottom is "Half Dollar."

Mount Vernon is fifteen miles south of Washington, DC Built in 1743; it is named after British Admiral Edward Vernon. George Washington inherited the property in 1752. Both he and his wife Martha are buried a few hundred meters from the house. In 1860 the Mount Vernon's Ladies Association acquired the property and now maintains it in the public interest.

The half-dollars were struck in two different versions. Uncirculated versions were made at the Denver mint, while proofs were struck in San Francisco. 10 million halves were authorized in the program. Original issue prices were $12.50 for the proof, $10.50 for the uncirculated. The coins were quite popular, with 2,210,458 uncirculateds struck. More than twice as many proofs were made, with 4,894,044 produced.

This first issue started the flow of coins that later became a flood. I will continue to cover more of

40th Annual

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Convention Schedule

APRIL 17, 1999 - SATURDAY

8:00 AM	Dealer Set Up - Ford Hall
8:00 AM	Exhibit Set Up Begins - Ford Hall
9:00 AM	Convention Opens To Public
11:30 AM	Exhibit Set Up Ends, Judging Begins
12.30 PM	N.N.A. Business Meeting - Salon B
1:30 P.M.	Educational Program, Walt Ostromecki - Salon B
2:30 P.M.	YN Auction - Salon B
5:00 P.M.	Bourse Area Closes
6:30 P.M.	Awards Banquet - Anthony's Steak House, 72nd & F St. Jim McKee - Master of Ceremonies

APRIL 18, 1999 - SUNDAY

8:00 A.M.	Dealers Admitted to Bourse Area
9:00 A.M.	Convention Opens to Public
4:00 P.M.	Convention Closes

Awards Banquet Menu

Tossed Salad
Bread
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Baked Potato
Club Steak
Coffee/Tea

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Nebraska Numismatic Association
Financial Statement
December 31, 1998

Checking account balance Jan. 1, 1998		$1,794.52
Certificate of Deposit (3-17-96)		$7,514.45
Certificate of Deposit (7-3-97)		$1,520.10
TOTAL		$10,829.07

INCOME:		
Dues	$206.00	
Advertising	$147.00	
Interest Income	$489.99	
Show Income	$ 5.66	
Encasement sales	$592.00	
TOTAL INCOME		$1,440.65

EXPENSES:		
Awards	$173.68	
Newsletter	$444.54	
Postage	$ 38.31	
Scholarships	$100.00	
ANA dues (5 years)	$165.00	
1999 Show Ad	$ 64.00	
Encasement production	$476.72	
TOTAL EXPENSES		$1462.25

NET DECREASE	($ 21.60)

Checking account balance December 31, 1998	$1,714.27
Certificate of Deposit (3-17-98)	$7,514.45
Certificate of Deposit (7-3-98)	$1,578.75
TOTAL	$10,807.47

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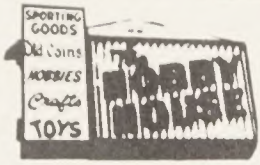

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State Wide Meeting Nights

FREMONT - The Fremont Coin Club, 3rd Saturday, The Evangelical Free Church Social Hall, 20th & Lincoln, 7:30 p.m.

GRAND ISLAND — Grand Island Coin Club, 1st Monday, Blue Flame Room, Gas Company

LINCOLN — Lincoln Coin Club, 2nd Thursday, ISCO Building, 531 Westgate Blvd., 7:30 p.m.

NORTH PLATTE — Platte Valley Coin Club, 3rd Tuesday, Community Room, Gas Company

OMAHA — Omaha Coin Club, 3rd Friday, New Cassel Retirement Center's Auditorium, 900 North 90th Street, 7:30 p.m.

OMAHA — SAC/Midwest Coin Club, 1st Tuesday, Denny's Restaurant, 8727 Maple Street, 7:00 p.m.

SEWARD - Nebraska Token Collectors Club, 2nd Sunday, 2:00 p.m., Cattle National Bank

SCOTTSBLUFF — Oregon Trail Coin Club, 2nd Wednesday, Mc Donald's Offices, 511 West 27th, 7:30 p.m.

WAHOO—Wahoo Coin Club, 1st Saturday, Saunders County Historical Museum, 240 North Walnut, rear door, 8:00 p.m.

NEBRASKA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
Executive Board

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PO Box 4394
Lincoln, NE 68504-0394

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Albion, NE 68620

SECRETARY-TREASURER:
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OTHER MEMBERS: Tom Hammond, North Platte, John Veach, Lincoln, James McKee, Lincoln

NEWSLETTER

PO BOX 1003
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PM
MAR 26
1999

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